Communal Riots in Andhra Pradesh

4628. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of communal riots took place in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the number of persons killed/ injured and missing and loss of property in each case caused by these riots in the State;

(c) the compensation given by Government and the State Government to the next of kin, injured and those who have lost their property in each riot in the State; and

(d) what action has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d): As per the available information, two communal riots took place in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, in which a total of 14 persons were killed and 128 persons were injured. Compensation to the next of the kin of those killed, to injured and those who have lost their property in each riot is paid by the State Government as per norms prevalent in the State.

The State Governments, which are primarily concerned with the maintenance of "Public Order" are advised, from time to time, for taking action against persons spreading ill-will, hatred or disharmony between members of different communities as per provisions of various laws. The Central Government has also issued revised guidelines to the State Governments for promotion of communal harmony and various measures have been suggested for controlling the communal situation. It also assists the State Governments by sharing the intelligence and providing Central Para-Military Forces as per their requirements.

Bomb Blasts in Andhra Pradesh

4629. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of bomb blasts that took place in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the number of persons killed injured and loss of property in each bomb blast case;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in each case and if so, the outcome of the enquiry; and

(d) the compensation given to the next of kin/injured in these blasts so far, and the action taken by Government to avoid such blasts in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Naxalism in Dandakaranya Region

4630. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made an initiative to find a solution to the vexed problem of Naxalism in Dandakaranya region; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The Union Home Minister convened a meeting of the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa on 15.6.1998 at Hyderabad to review the action being taken by these States to curb the activities of left wing extremists. In this meeting, the following decisions were taken:—

(i) The existing laws such as the National Security Act will continue to be invoked by the concerned State Governments. Simultaneously, the State Governments could examine

enactment of a separate law to deal with the left wing extremist problem.

(ii) A comprehensive Plan of Action encompassing developmental activities as well as stepped up security measures will have to be prepared by the States. Andhra Pradesh Government have already prepared such a plan which has been referred to the Planning Commission. Other State Governments should also prepare similar plans which will be taken up with the Planning Commission for allocation of funds.

(iii) A Coordination Centre will be set up at Hyderabad for reviewing the progress of the Action Plan and to coordinate the efforts of the State Governments. Union Home Secretary will be the Chairman of the Committee with Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of the four States as Members.

Ministry of Home Affairs has set up the Coordination Centre on 26.6.1998. State Governments have been requested to take immediate action on the decisions taken at the meeting. Action taken by the State Governments is being reviewed from time to time.

Dual Citizenship to Indians settled abroad

4631. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision regarding grant of dual citizenship to people of Indian origin settled abroad;

(b) if so, the details of decision taken;

(c) if no decision has been taken, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by when a decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, the Union Finance Minister while presenting the Central Governments budget for 1998-99 on 1st June, 1998 had, interalia, declared that Government have decided to draw up a scheme for issuance of a Persons of Indian origin (PIO) Card for those living abroad and having foreign passports.

The PIO card, which would be extended to persons settled in countries to be specified by Government, would besides introducing a visa free regime also confer some special economic, educational, financial and cultural benefits.The details of the scheme are being worked out.

कच्छ विकास बोर्ड का गठन

4632. **श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ला:** क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या प्रधानमंत्री ने अपनी हाल ही अहमदाबाद यात्रा के दौरान काफी समय से लम्बित "कच्छ विकास बोर्ड" के गठन के संदर्भ में एक अधिकारिक घोषणा की थी;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने प्रस्तावित कच्छ विकास बोर्ड के गठन की सभी प्रक्रिया संबंधी औपचारिकताओं को पूरा कर लिया है;

(ग) क्या राज्य सरकार ने भी उक्त विकास बोर्ड के गठन के लिए व्यापक प्रस्ताव सरकार को प्रस्तुत किया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और उक्त बोर्ड कब तक गठित कर दिए जाने की संभावना है?

गृह मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी): (क) 3 मई, 1998 को अहमदाबाद में आयोजित एक जन सभा में प्रधान मंत्री ने कच्छ क्षेत्र के त्वरित विकास के लिए एक कच्छ विकास बोर्ड के गठन की आवश्यकता के बारे में बोला था।

(ख) से (घ) महाराष्ट्र में विकास बोर्डों के आधार पर कच्छ के लिए एक विकास बोर्ड गठित करने संबंधी एक प्रस्ताव गुजरात राज्य सरकार से प्राप्त हुआ है। मामले पर सक्रिय रूप से विचार किया जा रहा है।